

Health Information Systems: Growing Capabilities Greater Expectations.

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Brief History of Health IT

- Health IT began with financial management
- Functions grew as technology grew
- Clinical uses are recent and still growing
- Growth of mobile technology increased the availability of patients' health information

The Birth of Health IT

- Large Hospitals develop financial and administrative systems
- Only used mainframe computers and centralized processing
- All applications were developed by the providers

1970s

- Medical costs rising fast, pressure to control growth
- Use of clinical information systems become more common
- Minicomputers (desk tops) become available and more affordable

1980s

- Prospective Payment system implemented for Medicare and Medicaid
- Presented a need to keep financial AND clinical information
- Local area networks and more affordable computers make for better record-keeping

1990s

- World Wide Web revolutionizes communication
- Cost of hardware drops
- Health IT vendor community explodes
- 1997- Institute of Medicine (IOM) calls for use of computer-based patient records

2000s

- Department of Health and Human Services calls for standards for Electronic Health Records
- Pay for performance led to applications tracking outcomes
- Bar-coding and Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) reducing medical errors and increase detail in records

Health IT Today

- Developed virtual architecture
- Mobile technology makes health information portable and accessible
- Patients have access to web-based patient records

Where does it find us

- Need to integrate systems to
 - Coordinate Care
 - Manage Business Functions
 - Evaluate Performance
 - Monitor Outcomes
 - Carry Out Populations Studies
 - Support Research

Challenge

- How do we build efficiency and effectiveness into systems which preserve rights, assure quality and support the attainment of better outcomes.